A NEW GALL MITE ON *PRUNUS MARITIMA* WANG.[1]

By James Kendall.

The examination of a collection of the short stalked, red, pouch galls taken on *Prunus maritima* Wang. at Woods Hole showed that the mite producing it was not a variety of *Eriophyes padi* Nal. as it has previously been believed. It differs from *Eriophyes padi* Nal., the producer of a pouch gall on the leaves of *Prunus padus* L., in that it is larger, has a pair of accessory setæ, and has a greater number of striæ. Schoene (1907) cites the difference of *Eriophyes pruni* Schoene, the mite producing a pouch gall on *Prunus americana* L., from *Eriophyes padi* Nal., which it was supposed to have been, by the possession of a pair of accessory setæ. Unfortunately, Schoene has not published a description of the mite which he refers to his manuscript of 1907. The mite which occurs on *Prunus maritima* may be a closely related form of the mite which Schoene refers to under the name of *Eriophyes pruni* Schoene. Until extensive collections of the genus *Eriophyes* occuring in America are made and preserved with some degree of permanence, it is necessary to consider many forms as distinct species which may later be considered subspecies and varieties of a certain designated type species. Such a process must occur slowly, even as it has in Europe under the guidance of Dr. Alfred Nalepa. The description of the mite producing the gall on *Prunus maritima* Wang. will be given under the name of *Eriophyes maritima* and considered as a new species. (fig. 1.)

Eriohpyes maritima n. sp.

Body cylindrical; thoracic shield with median longitudinal ridges on the dorsum and does not project over the rostrum, which is relatively very short and curves slightly downward. Tubercles of dorsal setæ near posterior border of shield and farther apart than the length of the setæ which incline toward each

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other across the median line of the shield. Legs long and slender; tarsus and tibia of equal length; feathered claw four-rayed and in the second pair of legs exceeded in length by the claw bristle. Sternum bifurcate with thoracic setæ II very near its outcurving ridges; thoracic setæ I, the shortest of the thoracic setæ, is well forward and anterior to the plane of the anterior end of the sternum; thoracic setæ III is the longest of the thoracic setæ and arises from large tubercles at the base of the coxæ of the second pair of legs. Abdominal striæ 65-75 in number with fine tuberculation often limited to the ventrum; last 5 striæ near

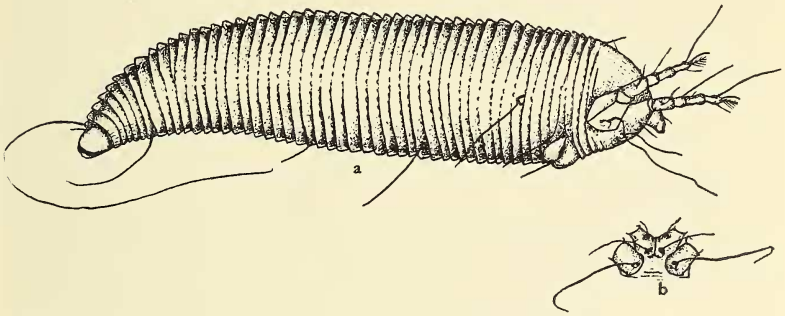

Fig. 1. *Eriophyes maritima* n. sp. on *Prunus maritima*: a, lateral view; b, ventral view of thorax.

the telson without tubercles but with ventral longitudinal striations. Lateral setæ posterior to the plane of the epigynium and the same length as ventral setæ I; ventral setæ II, the shortest and most median of the ventral setæ, as long as the dorsal setæ; ventral setæ III the longest and stoutest of the ventral setæ; the genital setæ about twice as long as the second pair of thoracic setæ; caudal setæ almost half the length of the body; accessory setæ acicular and not half as long as ventral setæ II. Female, 280x 70μ. Described from specimens killed and mounted in aceto-carmine; slides also prepared with celloidin method given by Ahmed Hassan (1928), from material collected at Woods Hole, July 2, 1928.

Measurements of the bristles and setæ of *Eriophyes maritima*: Feathered claw 9μ, claw bristle 1 9μ, 2 10μ, outer setæ of

leg 1 30μ, femoral setæ 10μ, patellar setæ 10μ, thoracic setæ 1 10μ, 21 30μ, 111 65μ, lateral setae 30μ, dorsal setæ 16μ, ventral setæ 1 35μ, 11 16μ, 111 40μ, caudal setæ 130μ, accessory setæ 7μ.

The gall which Eriophyes produces on *Prunus maritima* Wang. is probably the one which Chadwick (1907) lists in his catalogue as No. 97 for that plant host and considers it to be the same as his No. 100 which occurs on the leaves of *Prunus serotina* Ehrh. However, fresh material and sections of the galls show them to be quite distinctly different from each other. The gall on *Prunus maritima* is dull red, has a shorter stalk, has a rough surface with coarse trichomes, and has a corrugated inner wall with trichomes present only in the oriface which opens to the under side of the leaf. The gall on the leaves of *Prunus serotinæ* Ehrh. (*Padus virginiana* L. Mill.) is green or rose colored, smooth surfaced, has a longer stalk, and has on the inner walls cellular, trichome-like outgrowths, besides the trichomes which fill the oriface. The mites in these latter galls lack the accessory setæ and may be a subspecies of *Eriophyes padi* Nal., or a variety as Prof. Parrott (quoted by Chadwick 1907) believed them to be.